UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,448	07/22/2003	Ariye M. Cohen	MSI-340USC1	7968

22801 7590 06/16/2004

LEE & HAYES PLLC
421 W RIVERSIDE AVENUE SUITE 500
SPOKANE, WA 99201

EXAMINER	
LEWIS, CHERYL RENEA	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2177	

DATE MAILED: 06/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/625,448	COHEN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Cheryl Lewis	2177	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *22 July 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-12* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *22 July 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *06/14/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-12 are presented for examination.

PRIORITY

2. Applicant has complied and receives the benefit of priority of an earlier filing date to application 60/158,164, filed October 7, 1999.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

3. The information disclosure statements filed on July 22, 2003, complies with the provisions of MPEP § 609. They have been placed in the application file, and the information referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

Double Patenting

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970);and, *In re Thorington,* 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

5. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 12 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 37, and 39 of U.S. Patent No. 6,654,741 B1. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because the claim language of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, and 12 are similar to the claim language of claims 1, 3, 5, 9, 37, and 39 of Pat. No. 6,654,741 B1. Official Notice is given that it is well settled that the removal of limitations from a claimed invention, where the remainder of the structure is unaffected, would have been obvious.

The similarities between the instant claim limitations and the patented claim limitations of Pat. No. 6,240,415 B1 are presented in underline format. The difference between the instant claim limitations and the patented claim limitations of Pat. No. 6,654,741 B1 are presented in *italicize* format.

- Claims 1 and 2 of the instant application are similar to claim 1 of Pat. No. 6,654,741

a. Claim 1 of the instant application recites: A method of mapping a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) string comprising:

searching for a particular pattern in an input URL string, the pattern being defined in a manner *that* permits *the search to be satisfied while allowing* variability among constituent parts *of the input URL string*; and replacing the input URL string with an output URL string if the pattern is found in the input URL string.

Claim 2 of the instant application recites: wherein the particular pattern *comprises* a regular expression.

Claim 1 of Pat. No. 6,654,741 recites: A method of mapping a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) string comprising:

searching for a particular pattern in an input URL string, the pattern being defined in a manner *which* permits variability among constituent parts; and replacing the input URL string with an output URL string if the pattern is found in the input URL string; wherein the particular pattern *is specified as* a regular expression *comprising a character string that includes literal characters and special characters, wherein the literal characters indicate exact characters in the input URL string and the special characters indicate variable characters in the input URL string.*

- Claims 3 and 4 of the instant application is similar to claim 3 of Pat. No. 6,654,741

b. Claim 3 of the instant application recites: *The method of claim 1, wherein the act of searching comprises:*

accessing a plurality of input expressions, each of which describes a different pattern, wherein the input expressions are each associated with an output expression; and checking the input URL string against the input expressions to determine a matching input expression.

Claim 4 of the instant application recites: generating an output URL string from the output expression associated with the matching input expression

Claim 3 of Pat. No. 6,654,741 recites: *A method of mapping a URL string comprising:*

accessing a plurality of input expressions, each of which describes a different pattern, wherein the input expressions are each associated with an output expression; and checking the input URL string against the input expressions to determine a matching input expression; *and* generating an output URL string from the output expression associated with the matching input expression*, the output expression containing an identifier which represents a portion of the input URL string.*

- Claim 5 of the instant application is similar to claim 5 of Pat. No. 6,654,741

c. Claim 5 of the instant application recites: *The method of claim 1, wherein said searching comprises:*

accessing a plurality of input expressions, each of which describes a different pattern, wherein the input expressions are each associated with an output expression; checking the input URL string against the input expressions to determine a matching input expression; and wherein said *replacing* comprises generating an output URL string from the output expression associated with the matching input expression.

Claim 5 of Pat. No. 6,654,741 recites: *A method of mapping a URL string comprising:*

accessing a plurality of input expressions, each of which describes a different pattern, wherein the input expressions are *arranged in a particular order, and wherein* wherein the input expressions are each associated with an output expression; checking the input URL string against the input expressions to determine a matching input expression, *wherein the checking of the input URL string comprises starting with a first of the input expressions and proceeding in a stepwise fashion through the input expressions; and* generating an output URL string from the output expression associated with the matching input expression.

- Claim 6 of the instant application is similar to Claim 39 of Pat. No. 6,654,741

d. Claim 6 of the instant application recites: A *Uniform Resource Locator* (URL) mapping engine comprising an *Application Programming* Interface *(API)* that exposes a plurality of methods that are associated with managing rules that govern mapping capabilities of the URL mapping engine.

Claim 39 of Pat. No. 6,654,741 recites: A URL mapping engine comprising an interface that exposes a plurality of methods that are associated with managing rules that govern mapping capabilities of the URL mapping engine, *wherein the rules are defined by regular expressions.*

- Claim 7 of the instant application is similar to Claim 37 of Pat. No. 6,654,741

e. Claim 7 of the instant application recites: A method of mapping a *Uniform Resource Locator* (URL) string comprising:

receiving an input URL string; mapping the input URL string to an output expression having a tagged expression therein; and using the tagged expression to provide an output URL string.

Claim 37 of Pat. No. 6,654,741 recites: A method of mapping a URL string comprising:

receiving an input URL string; mapping the input URL string to an output expression having a tagged expression; using the tagged expression *to invoke a lookup method which produces a result; and replacing the tagged expression in the output expression with the lookup method result* to provide an output URL string.

- Claims 9 and 12 of the instant application are similar to claim 9 of Pat. No. 6,654,741

f. Claim 9 of the instant application recites: *A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing acts comprising:*

receiving an input Uniform Resource Locator (URL) string; evaluating *the input* URL string against a plurality of rules to identify a rule specifying a text pattern corresponding to the URL string, each rule having an output expression associated therewith, at least one rules specifying a text pattern correspond to more than one combination of text characters; and producing an output URL string using an output expression associated with the identified rule.

Claim 12 of the instant application recites: *A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing acts comprising:*

defining a plurality of rules, wherein each rule specifies: a text pattern; *a rule ID; a rule action type;* and a corresponding output expression; wherein at least some of the text patterns correspond to more than one combination of text characters; evaluating the rules against a URL string to identify a rule specifying a text pattern corresponding to the URL string; and replacing the URL string with an output string specified by the output expression of the identified rule.

Claim 9 of Pat. No. 6,654,741 recites: *A method of mapping a URL string comprising:*

defining a plurality of rules, wherein each rule specifies; a text pattern; and a corresponding output expression; wherein at least some of the text patterns correspond to more than one combination of text characters; evaluating the rules against a first URL string to identify a rule specifying a text pattern corresponding to the first URL string; and replacing the first URL string with an output URL string specified by the output expression of the identified rule.

Claim Objections

6. Claim 12 objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 12 is incorrectly numbered. Claim 12 should be renumbered claim 11.

The applicants' claims consist of claims 1-10 and 12.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

8. Claims 1 and 3-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kobayakawa et al. (Pat. No. 6,119,078 filed October 13, 1997, hereinafter Kobayakawa).

9. Regarding Claim 1, Kobayakawa teaches systems, methods and computer program products for automatically translating web pages.

The method and associated system for computer program products for automatically translating web pages as taught or suggested by Kobayakawa includes:

a particular pattern in an input URL string (col. 5, lines 26-53, col. 6, lines 1-34, col. 11, lines 1-67, col. 12, lines 1-67), the pattern being defined in a manner that permits the search to be satisfied (col. 5, lines 25-53, col. 6, lines 1-9, col. 8, lines 41-57, col. 11, lines 1-66) while allowing variability among constituent parts of the input URL string (col. 5, lines 25-53, col. 6, lines 1-9, col. 8, lines 41-57, col. 11, lines 1-67, col. 10, lines 1-11); and replacing the input URL string with an output URL string if the pattern is found in the input URL string (figure 3, elements 110-135, col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-5).

10. Regarding Claims 3 and 5, Kobayakawa teaches accessing a plurality of input expressions (col. 5, lines 26-53, col. 6, lines 1-57, col. 8, lines 41-67, col. 9, lines 1-67, col. 10, lines 1-11), each of which describes a different pattern (col. 5, lines 26-53, col. 6, lines 1-57, col. 8, lines 41-67, col. 9, lines 1-67, col. 10, lines 1-11, col. 11, lines 1-67, col. 12, lines 1-67), wherein the input expressions are each associated with an output expression (col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-5); and checking the input URL string against the input expressions to determine a matching input expression (col. 5, lines 26-53, col. 6, lines 1-57, col. 8, lines 41-67, col. 9, lines 1-67, col. 10, lines 1-11, col. 11, lines 1-67, col. 12, lines 1-67); and wherein replacing comprises generating an output URL string form the output expression associated with the matching input expression (col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-5).

11. Regarding Claim 4, Kobayakawa teaches generating an output URL string from the output expression associated with the matching input expression (figure 3, elements 110-135, col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-5).

12. Regarding Claim 6, Kobayakawa teaches a uniform resource locator (URL) (Abstract, lines 1-6, col. 8, lines 58-67, col. 9, lines 20-39) mapping engine (figure 2, element 120) comprising an application programming interface (api) (col. 8, lines 40-47) that exposes a plurality of methods that are associated with managing rules that govern mapping capabilities of the URL mapping engine (col. 8, lines 58-67, col. 9, lines 1-39, col. 10, lines 27-48, col. 11, lines 59-67, col. 12, lines 1-6 and 53-67, col. 13, lines 1-4).

13. Regarding Claim 7, Kobayakawa teaches receiving an input URL string (col. 5, lines 26-53, col. 6, lines 1-34, col. 11, lines 1-67, col. 12, lines 1-67); mapping the input URL string to an output expression having a tagged expression therein (col. 5, lines 1-25, col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-67); and using the tagged expression to provide an output URL string (figure 3, elements 110-135, col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-67).

14. Regarding Claim 8, Kobayakawa teaches invoking a lookup procedure specified by the tagged expression to produce a result (col. 5, lines 1-25, col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-67); and using the result to generate the output URL string (figure 3, elements 110-135, col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-67).

15. Regarding Claim 9, Kobayakawa teaches receiving an input Uniform Resource Locator (URL) string (col. 5, lines 26-53, col. 6, lines 1-34, col. 11, lines 1-67, col. 12, lines 1-67); evaluating the input URL string against a plurality of rules to identify a rule specifying a text pattern corresponding to the URL string (col. 4, lines 62-67, col. 5, lines 1-53, col. 6, lines 1-9, col. 8, lines 41-57, col. 11, lines 1-66), each rule having an output expression associated therewith (figure 3, elements 110-135, col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-26, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-67), at least one rules specifying a text pattern correspond to more than one combination of text characters (col. 4, lines 62-67, col. 5, lines 1-53); and producing an output URL string using an output expression associated with the identified rule (figure 3, elements 110-135, col. 9, lines 30-39, col. 10, lines 12-67, col. 11, lines 10-67, col. 12, lines 1-67).

16. Regarding Claim 10, Kobayakawa teaches the means which essentially comprises the same means as rules includes a rule ID and a rule action type (col. 10, lines 27-67).

17. Regarding Claim 12, the limitations of this claim has been noted in the rejection above. It is therefore rejected as set forth above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

18. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

19. Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayakawa et al. (Pat. No. 6,119,078 filed October 13, 1997, hereinafter Kobayakawa) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Bowen et al. (Pat. No. 6,094,649 filed December 22, 1997, hereinafter Bowen).

20. Regarding Claim 2, Kobayakawa does not expressly teach a regular expression.

Bowen teaches a regular expression (col. 5, lines 55-67, col. 6, lines 1-3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the data dictionary of Kobayakawa's method with the data dictionary of Bowen's method because Bowen's data dictionary could enable the data dictionary of Kobayakawa's method to comprise an indexing agent, wherein the indexing agent indexes data items of a structured database, selected data items are

retrieved using an sql query, data items that are selected and identified in a data dictionary are indexed based on relation of the selected data items (see Bowen, col. 4, lines 20-51).

CONCLUSION

21. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

A. Cohen et al. (Pat. No. 6,654,741 B1) discloses a url mapping methods and systems;

B. Bharat et al. (Pat. No. 6,286,006 B1) discloses method and apparatus for finding mirrored hosts by analyzing urls; and

C. Burrows (Pat. No. 5,864,863) discloses method for parsing, indexing and searching world-wide-web pages.

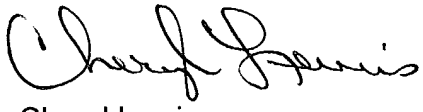
NAME OF CONTACT

22. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl Lewis whose telephone number is (703) 305-8750. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

(703) 746-5651 (Use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper/amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions.).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.



Cheryl Lewis
Patent Examiner
June 14, 2004